

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-23 (Canceled).

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): An information exchange apparatus configured to establish a Bluetooth connection with a handheld communication terminal and to exchange information with the handheld communication terminal, comprising:

an acquisition device configured to acquire terminal identification information of the handheld communication terminal, which is transmitted from a wireless tag, instead of executing a procedure of a Bluetooth terminal search phase to acquire the terminal identification information; and

a short distance wireless communication device configured to establish the Bluetooth connection with the handheld communication terminal whose terminal identification information is acquired by the acquisition device and to exchange information with the handheld communication terminal in accordance with a Bluetooth procedure following the procedure of the Bluetooth terminal search phase.

Claims 25-32 (Canceled).

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): A cash register apparatus which is adapted to a point of sale (POS) system to provide a user of a handheld communication terminal with a predetermined service by establishing a Bluetooth connection with the handheld communication terminal and to exchange information with the handheld communication terminal, comprising:

an acquisition device configured to acquire terminal identification information of the handheld communication terminal, which is transmitted from a wireless tag, instead of executing a procedure of a Bluetooth terminal search phase to acquire the terminal identification information; and

a short distance wireless communication device configured to establish the Bluetooth connection with the handheld communication terminal whose terminal identification information is acquired by the acquisition device and to exchange information with the handheld communication terminal in accordance with a Bluetooth procedure following the procedure of the Bluetooth terminal search phase.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The cash register apparatus according to claim 33, wherein the terminal identification information acquired by the acquisition device is made correspondent to a purchase history of the user to obtain input data of the POS system.

Claims 35-38 (Canceled).

Claim 39 (New): The information exchange apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the wireless tag is a passive wireless tag that does not require a battery.

Claim 40 (New): The information exchange apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the wireless tag is a write once/read many (WORM) wireless tag.

Claim 41 (New): The information exchange apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the wireless tag employs LF-MF bandwidth.